

APPROVED

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

SEP 21 2011

NO. 11-269

DATE September 21, 2011

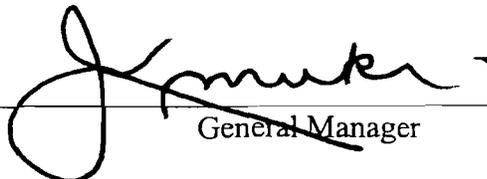
BOARD OF RECREATION  
AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

C.D. Various

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: 2011/2012 CAL FIRE URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM –  
TREE INVENTORY GRANT – AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT GRANT  
APPLICATION; ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT

R. Adams		K. Regan	_____
H. Fujita	_____	M. Shull	_____
*V. Israel	_____	N. Williams	_____

  
General Manager

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve the submission of the 2011/2012 State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Urban and Community Forestry Program – Tree Inventory grant application to fund the updating of the Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) tree inventory system project, which is used to manage the Department’s urban forest, in the amount of approximately \$200,000, subject to Mayor and City Council consideration;
2. Direct staff to transmit a copy of the grant application upon completion to the Mayor, Office of the City Administrative Officer, Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst, and to the City Clerk for committee and City Council consideration, pursuant to the Administrative Code Section 14.6 et seq. as may be amended;
3. Authorize the Department’s General Manager to accept and receive a grant in the amount of approximately \$200,000 from CAL FIRE for the tree inventory system project, subject to the approval of the Mayor and City Council;
4. Authorize the Department’s General Manager, Executive Officer, or Assistant General Manager to negotiate and execute the resulting grant agreement and any subsequent amendments thereto, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney; and

## REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 2 NO. 11-269

5. Authorize the Department's Chief Accounting Employee to establish the necessary account within "Recreation and Parks Grant" Fund 205 to accept the 2011/2012 CAL FIRE Urban and Community Forestry Program – Tree Inventory Grant in the amount of approximately \$200,000 for the tree inventory system project.

### SUMMARY:

In July 2011, CAL FIRE released the Urban and Community Forestry Program – Tree Inventory Grant request for proposals, which are due by September 23, 2011. Funded through Propositions 40 and 84, this grant supports tree inventory programs in an effort to meet the State's greenhouse emission reduction targets. The program is designed to help urban communities and local agencies expand and improve the management of trees and related vegetation throughout California. Effective tree management promotes energy conservation, reduces storm water runoff, extends the life of surface streets, improves local air, soil and water quality, reduces atmospheric carbon dioxide, improves public health, provides wildlife habitat and increases property values. Trees improve the quality of life in urban environments, which is a goal of the City of Los Angeles.

The Department is requesting the grant to fund a tree inventory system project identified by the Forestry Division (Forestry). The grant funds will allow the Department to inventory a minimum of 50,000 trees, thereby significantly increasing its tree inventory by 300%. If awarded, the Department will contract with a professional arboriculture consultant that will work with Forestry's certified arborists to implement the tree inventory system project for completion. The Department's certified arborists will identify a list of parks located within disadvantaged and severely disadvantaged communities of the City for project implementation. The Department's Grants Administration and Grants Accounting staff will administer the grant for compliance and manage funding related operations. The consultant will conduct the tree inventory in accordance with CAL FIRE guidelines and the Department's Tree Care Manual. The Department's certified arborists and forestry staff will compile the data to complete an optimized report to be made available to CAL FIRE and the public via the Department's website. The report will also serve as an education outreach tool, where interns from the Horticulture Department at Long Beach City College will conduct tree workshops in the communities that were served by the project. Ultimately the report derived from the tree inventory will be used to manage and sustain the City's parkland trees with the prospect of performing further environment and economic analysis of the Department' stewardship of its parkland trees.

### FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

If the grant is awarded, there is a 25% match requirement the Department is obligated to fulfill. The Department intends to fulfill the grant's match requirement in the form of in-kind contributions, e.g.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 3      NO. 11-269

labor, materials, services, and equipment. Submitting this grant application has no fiscal impact to the Department's General Fund.

This report was prepared by Mark Rose, Facility Director, Grants Administration.